

# Local Newspapers Credited With Tax Delinquency Lag

Tax delinquencies are down for the fourth successive year. This was reported coincident with publication in today's Torrance Herald, and in 107 other local newspapers throughout Los Angeles County of the tax delinquency lists for the affected communities.

The published lists this year are approximately 10 per cent less than those of a year ago, indicating, according to officers of the Los Angeles Newspaper Service Bureau, Inc., who distributed the lists to the participating newspapers, that delinquencies were down in

corresponding degree, the largest drop percentage-wise in recent years.

H. L. BYRAM, the County Tax Collector, stated that the delinquencies have not yet been tabulated completely. However, the total number of parcels delinquent and advertised is less than it was last year, he said.

Elliott Hensel, a market analyst of Glendale, who has surveyed the tax delinquency sit-

uation during recent years, in a published document distributed to County officials and newspaper publishers recently, attributed the continued drop in the number of advertised delinquent parcels since 1955 to the adoption that year by the Board of Supervisors of a policy of publishing the lists in suburban daily and weekly newspapers instead of in a single newspaper of small circulation, as previously done.

HENSEL in his pamphlet pointed out that despite a steady increase in bankruptcies and trust deed foreclosures during 1956, 1957, and 1958, the tax delinquencies in those years showed the same sort of decline that they have this past year.

In the four year period, 1955-1958, bankruptcies more than

doubled, from 6,148 to 12,238, he pointed out, but properties foreclosed and sold at public sale following tax delinquencies advertised in local newspapers, dropped from 3799 to 2235, Hensel's study showed.

While parcels foreclosed for default trust deeds increased from 1733 in 1955 to 3589 in 1958, and with a much higher count in prospect for 1959, the number of parcels delinquent for taxes dropped from 133,564 in 1955 to 124,968 in 1958, Hensel's study showed.

IMPROVEMENT in the delinquency situation, because of delinquent tax advertising in local newspapers, was made during a period when the number of parcels on the assessment rolls increased from 1,588,850 to 1,691,368, Hensel pointed out, and the overall valuation during the period climbed from \$2,204,410,950 in 1955 to \$2,835,838,090 in 1958. They are still higher in 1959.

"This is all proof of the potency of the local newspapers," Hensel said. All this delinquency improvement was accomplished at a negligible cost per parcel per thousand circulation, which has gone down steadily as aggregate newspaper circulation has climbed to its present total of 1,628,825. Hensel pointed out, incidentally, that the advertising cost is not paid from tax revenues but principally from a \$1. advertising penalty assessed against each delinquent.

# Obituaries

## DR. GEORGE BLAINE SHEEN

Funeral services for Dr. George Blaine Sheen, 76, of 2708 El Dorado St., who died at his home Monday, were conducted yesterday at 2 p.m. at Stone and Myers Chapel by Rev. Robert Dehn. Burial was in Pacific Crest Cemetery.

A native of Kansas, Dr. Sheen practiced dentistry for over 50 years in Utah, before retiring to this city three years ago.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Lena; two daughters, Betty J. Adams of Utah and Catherine J. McCusker of 3317 Opal St.; a brother, William Sheen of Montana; a sister, Miss Mabel Sheen of Kansas; and six grandchildren.

## THOMAS MOORE

Graveside funeral services for Thomas Moore, 58, of 21021 Shearer St., who died Sunday at Long Beach Hospital, will be conducted Saturday at 10 a.m. at Holy Cross Cemetery. Arrangements are being handled by Stone and Myers Mortuary.

Born in Minnesota, Mr. Moore resided here for the past 25 years. He is survived by his wife, Mary Cecile; three daughters, Mary Elizabeth McMeeker of Michigan, Kathleen Moore of Torrance, and Shelia Smith of Long Beach; three grandchildren; his parents, Mr. and Mrs.

William H. Moore of Ventura; and two sisters, Helen Corea of Oakland and Marian Newberg of Minnesota.

## ROLLIE WILLS

Funeral services for Rollie Wills, 55, of 23701 S. Western Ave., will be held at 10 a.m. today at the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary Chapel.

Mr. Wills was a native of Oklahoma and had resided in Torrance since 1941. He is survived by his widow, Etta Wills; a son, Rollie Kenneth Wills of Torrance; David and James Wills, grandsons; three brothers, Ralph of Norwalk, Russell of Los Angeles, and Rull of Oklahoma; and four sisters, Mrs. Lillian Hunt of Redondo Beach; Mrs. Fern Skiles, Mrs. Barbara Roddom, and Mrs. Juanita McCraig, all of Oklahoma.

Burial will follow at Green Hills Memorial Park.

## MYRTLE MAE COX

Funeral services for Myrtle Mae Cox of 1613 Beech Ave., who died here Monday at the age of 50, will be conducted today at 1 p.m. at A. M. Gamby Mortuary, 25001 Narbonne Ave., Lomita, by Rev. Howard Rosine. Interment will follow at Inglewood Park Cemetery.

A native of Kearsarge, Mich., Mrs. Cox resided in this area for 39 years. She is survived by her husband, Claude; a son, Gerald C. Cox of Sacramento; two brothers, W. E. Jenkin of Lomita and Richard J. Jenkin of Harbor City, and a granddaughter.

## EDWARD W. KOESTER

Funeral services for Edward William Koester, 19926 Hinsdale Ave., will be held in Hermosa Beach at 2:30 p.m. today

with Dr. Andreas Bard officiating.

Mr. Koester, who was 61, was born in San Francisco and had been employed by Thrifty Drug Stores as a pharmacist for eight years. He is a veteran of World War I, a member of the Redondo Beach Elks Lodge, Masonic Lodge, and the American Legion.

He is survived by his widow, Interment will be in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

## HELEN ALENE LYONS

Funeral services for Helen Alene Lyons, of Los Angeles, mother of William R. Lyons of Torrance, was held at the A. M. Gamby Mortuary, Lomita, Saturday. A native of Chicago, Mrs. Lyons was 63 at the time of her death. She had lived in the Southern California area for 50 years.

In addition to her son here, she is survived by her husband, Owen; and sons, Owen V. and Thomas M. Lyon of Los Angeles.

Burial was in Green Hills Memorial Park.

# Benefit Dance For Osteopathic Hospital Slated

Frank James and his orchestra will provide the music July 11, when a benefit dance for the new Harbor City Osteopathic Hospital will be held at the Retail Clerks Union Hall at 253rd and Belleport Ave.

Ticket sales are moving at a fast clip for the affair with persons being asked to donate \$1 each for admission to the affair.

Prizes and specialty acts will add to the fun throughout the evening, according to Warren Akridge, market manager of Western Farms and entertainment chairman for the benefit. Tickets and prizes for the event have been donated by Western Farms.

# School District Library Set-Up Told to T.E.A.C.

Four school leaders—"Gracie" Wright, "Glennie" Willett, "Henry" Hull, and "Jammy" Waldrip—had their educational careers under discussion Tuesday at the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee meeting, as those attending learned how the district provides books for each child.

In a discussion of the operation of the Educational Materials Building, the district library, it was pointed out that the district maintains the central library set-up for elementary schools. Through a central set-up, the district can maintain a greater supply of different kinds of books which circulate more widely.

"Pigeons" for the demonstration were School Board Member Grace Wright; Mrs. Otto Willett, T.E.A.C. moderator; School Superintendent J. H. Hull; and Assistant Superintendent S. E. Waldrip. They represented different types of children for whom books were selected.

Explaining the library's supply of books, films, and records were Mrs. Lynn Shidler, Neil Lewis, and Rod McDaniel, librarians, and Mrs. Margaret Denmarsh, curriculum consultant.

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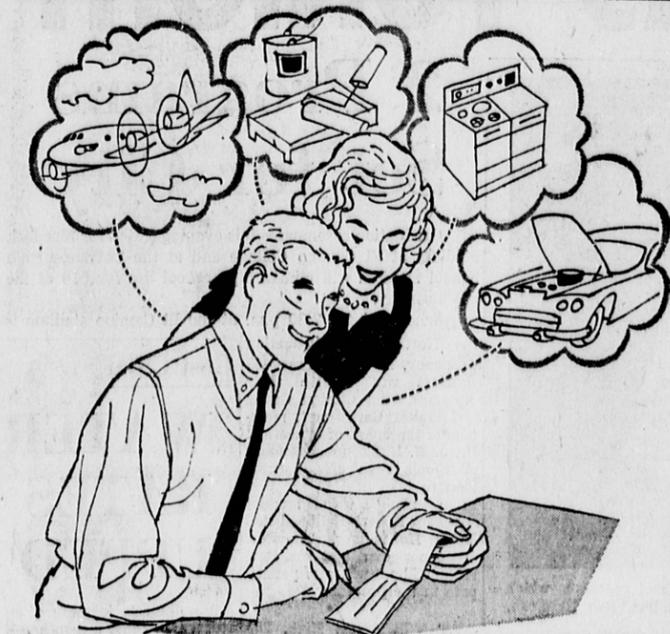
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